

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A method for controlling the performance of a mount operation changing the logical association of a first file system with a second file system of an information handling system by a user who may not have general authority to perform such a mount operation, the method comprising the steps of:

specifying ~~an a~~ subset of users having a predetermined access authority ~~that a given user has to~~ the first file system;

in response to a request by a user to perform a requested mount operation on the first file system, determining whether the user has general authority to perform the requested mount operation;

if the user has general authority to perform the requested mount operation, performing the requested mount operation; and

if the user does not have general authority to perform the requested mount operation,

determining whether the user ~~has a~~ is one of the subset of users having the predetermined access authority to the first file system; and

performing the requested mount operation ~~only if the user has~~ is one of the subset of users having the predetermined access authority to the first file system.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which the requested mount operation logically associates the first file system with the second file system.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which the requested mount operation logically dissociates the first file system from the second file system.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which the step of determining whether the user has general authority to perform the requested mount operation comprises the step of determining whether the user has general superuser authority.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which the step of determining whether the user has general authority to perform the requested mount operation comprises the step of determining whether the user has superuser authority for mount operations.
6. (Currently amended) Apparatus for controlling the performance of a mount operation changing the logical association of a first file system with a second file system of an information handling system by a user who may not have general authority to perform such a mount operation, comprising:

means for specifying ~~an~~ a subset of users having a predetermined access authority that a given user has to the first file system;

means responsive to a request by a user to perform a requested mount operation on the first file system for determining whether the user has general authority to perform the requested mount operation;

means for performing the requested mount operation if the user has general authority to perform the requested mount operation; and

means for:

determining whether the user ~~has~~ is one of the subset of users having the predetermined access authority to the first file system; and

performing the requested mount operation ~~only~~ if the user has is one of the subset of users having the predetermined access authority to the first file system

if the user does not have general authority to perform the requested mount operation.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 6 in which the requested mount operation logically associates the first file system with the second file system.
8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 6 in which the requested mount operation logically dissociates the first file system from the second file system.
9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 6 in which the means for determining whether the user has general authority to perform the requested mount operation comprises means for determining whether the user has general superuser authority.
10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 6 in which the means for determining whether the user has general authority to perform the requested mount operation comprises means for determining whether the user has superuser authority for mount operations.
11. (Currently amended) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for controlling the performance of a mount operation changing the logical association of a first file system with a second file system of an information handling system by a user who may not have general authority to perform such a mount operation, the method steps comprising:

specifying as a subset of users having a predetermined access authority that a given user
has to the first file system;

in response to a request by a user to perform a requested mount operation on the first file system, determining whether the user has general authority to perform the requested mount operation;

if the user has general authority to perform the requested mount operation, performing the requested mount operation; and

if the user does not have general authority to perform the requested mount operation,

determining whether the user ~~has a~~ is one of the subset of users having the predetermined access authority to the first file system; and

performing the requested mount operation ~~only if the user has~~ only if the user is one of the subset of users having the predetermined access authority to the first file system.

12. (Original) The program storage device of claim 11 in which the requested mount operation logically associates the first file system with the second file system.
13. (Original) The program storage device of claim 11 in which the requested mount operation logically dissociates the first file system from the second file system.
14. (Original) The program storage device of claim 1 in which the step of determining whether the user has general authority to perform the requested mount operation comprises the step of determining whether the user has general superuser authority.
15. (Original) The program storage device of claim 1 in which the step of determining whether the user has general authority to perform the requested mount operation comprises the step of determining whether the user has superuser authority for mount operations.
16. (New) The method of claim 1 in which the file system has an owner and the specified subset of users is the owner of the first file system.
17. (New) The method of claim 1 in which the specified subset of users is the set of users having read access authority to the first file system.

18. (New) The apparatus of claim 6 in which the file system has an owner and the specified subset of users is the owner of the first file system.
19. (New) The apparatus of claim 6 in which the specified subset of users is the set of users having read access authority to the first file system.
20. (New) The program storage device of claim 11 in which the file system has an owner and the specified subset of users is the owner of the first file system.
21. (New) The program storage device of claim 11 in which the specified subset of users is the set of users having read access authority to the first file system.